>

Title: Need to accord the status of a Central University to Sambalpur University, Orissa.

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA (SAMBALPUR): The Sambalpur University is one of the leading Universities in Orissa catering to the needs of 10 Districts and one sub-division in Western Part of Orissa, where 75 per cent of the total population belong to disadvantaged section of the society, out of which 46 per cent belong to SCs/STs Community against State average of 32 per cent and national average of 28 per cent. The design of Social and Educational Development Programmes, therefore, must take this relative heterogeneity into account. This University is spread in an area of 670.39 acres of land is located at a distance of less than 1 K.M. from National Highway No. 6 on its East and 50 kms. away from the upcoming International Airport at Jharsuguda. The location of this University is also nearer to and well-connected with the neighbouring States like Chhatisgarh and Jharkhand which too have a similarly high population of SC/ST and other marginalized sections. Thus Sambalpur University finds itself catering to the need of a fairly large section of population that extends beyond the State boundaries. Academically, this University has excelled in Research, more specifically, applied research and Output. It has also patented a few of the intellectual properties. The University has a national perspective as it offers Gangadhar National Award to poets of eminence of different languages of India which shows that it has the potential to develop as a National Centre of Learning.

Taking all these factors into consideration it is high time that the Union Government confer the status of a Central University to the Sambalpur University.

12.34 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we will come to Item No.13. We will now take up discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Rural Development.

Motion moved:

> "That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Fourth column of the Order paper be granted to the President of India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2009, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the Second column thereof against Demand Nos.80 to 82 relating to the Ministry of Rural Development."

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Haribhau Jawale has tabled a cut motion to the Demand for Grant relating to the Department of Rural Development. If the hon. Member wants to move his cut motion, he may send a slip at the Table within 15 minutes.

We have got four hours. I know the importance of this Ministry . If we need, we shall do it but there will be no lunch recess. Now, Shri Kashiram Rana.